

# MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**MONTANA FIELD OFFICE**  
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 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 8, 2017

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Montana experienced cooler temperatures along with moisture throughout most of the state, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. High temperatures ranged from the low 50s to the mid-70s. Low temperatures ranged from six degrees in Chester, Havre, and Dunkirk to the low 30s. One hundred-two weather stations reported moisture. The highest amount of precipitation was recorded in Rudyard with 1.52 inches of moisture. Soil moisture conditions were recorded with 46 percent of topsoil rated very short to short, compared to 29 percent the previous year. Subsoil was rated 70 percent very short to short, compared with 36 percent last year. Reporters noted that low temperatures and snow likely meant the end of planting in the North Central portion of the state if fields don't dry within 10 to 15 days. Hard frosts were also reported, and reporters noted light damage to vegetables and potatoes. Winter wheat seeded was 75 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 78 percent. Potato harvest was 75 percent complete, ahead of last year's progress of 51 percent. Corn for grain harvest was 23 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 30 percent. Sugarbeet harvest was 24 percent complete, compared to last year's progress of 23 percent.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Camelina				
Harvested .....	85	80	84	95
Corn				
Harvested for grain .....	23	14	30	22
Harvested for silage .....	93	86	89	86
Potatoes				
Harvested .....	75	35	51	55
Safflower				
Harvested .....	57	54	54	57
Sugarbeets				
Harvested .....	24	NA	23	25
Winter wheat				
Planted .....	75	53	78	79
Emerged .....	34	2	48	38
Cattle and Calves				
Moved from summer pasture .....	51	41	43	49
Receiving Supplemental Feed .....	15	NA	10	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Moved from summer pasture .....	64	52	65	63
Receiving Supplemental Feed .....	18	NA	12	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for field work .....	4.3	5.7	2.6	NA
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	17	19	10	14
Short .....	29	38	19	23
Adequate .....	44	42	56	55
Surplus .....	10	1	15	8
Subsoil moisture				
Very short .....	30	40	12	16
Short .....	40	40	24	27
Adequate .....	26	18	57	51
Surplus .....	4	2	7	6

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
<b>Corn</b>				
Very poor .....	8	4	--	2
Poor .....	10	15	4	6
Fair .....	35	46	30	31
Good .....	42	33	51	44
Excellent .....	5	2	15	17
<b>Pasture and range</b>				
Very poor .....	40	40	13	16
Poor .....	26	25	20	20
Fair .....	20	21	37	32
Good .....	12	12	25	27
Excellent .....	2	2	5	5
<b>Potatoes</b>				
Very poor .....	--	--	--	NA
Poor .....	2	1	2	NA
Fair .....	18	8	5	NA
Good .....	48	62	46	NA
Excellent .....	32	29	47	NA
<b>Safflower</b>				
Very poor .....	36	32	NA	NA
Poor .....	21	19	NA	NA
Fair .....	42	48	NA	NA
Good .....	1	1	NA	NA
Excellent .....	--	--	NA	NA
<b>Sugarbeets</b>				
Very poor .....	2	2	--	1
Poor .....	11	10	2	5
Fair .....	44	49	21	25
Good .....	37	34	65	50
Excellent .....	6	5	12	19

NA – not available

(--) – zero

Montana's weather data can be accessed at the following:

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Montana/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/2017/MT\\_Weather\\_10082017.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/MT_Weather_10082017.pdf)